

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 3710

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, NATO

SUBJECT:MEETING OF ARMY ARMAMENTS GROUP PANEL ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS,

AC/226(PANEL VIII), 23-26 JUNE 75.

SECDEF FOR DTACCS, DA FOR OCRDA, ORDIN, AND DAMA-CSC,
USAECOM FOR AMSEL-NL-RO AND AMSEL-CE-CS

REFS: A. AC/226(PANEL VIII) A/10, 30 APR 75

B. USNATO A-119, 3 JULY 75

C. USNATO 2779, 161825Z MAY 75

SUMMARY. PANEL VIII HAS A NEW CHAIRMAN, ENERGETIC AND
CAPABLE. AT THIS MEETING, HE INITIATED A CRITICAL REVIEW
OF TERMS OF REFERENCE AND PROGRAMS OF WORK FOR BOTH PANEL
VIII AND ITS SUB-PANEL 1. RESULT SHOULD BE CLOSER COOPERA-
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TION AMONG NATO ACTIVITIES WITH INTERESTS IMPINGING UPON
TACTICAL COMMUNICATIONS, ALSO ELIMINATION OF EFFORTS NOT
CONTRIBUTING TO STANDARDIZATION/INTEROPERABILITY OF
TACTICAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS. PANEL NOTED THREE PROJECTS

AS POSSIBLE CANDIDATES FOR COOPERATIVE EFFORT, THOUGH TWO OF THESE MAY HAVE PROGRESSED IN DEVELOPMENT BEYOND THE STAGE WHERE COOPERATION IS FEASIBLE. SUB-PANEL 1 WORKING GROUPS REPORTED ON THEIR PROGRESS. MR. H.N. SCHNEIDER, US ARMY ELECTRONICS COMMAND, ATTENDED AS US REPRESENTATIVE. END SUMMARY.

1. ITEM 1. OPENING OF MEETING. CHAIRMAN PRO TEM SPENCER, INTERNATIONAL STAFF, OPENED MEETING, CALLING ATTENTION TO NATO'S CONCERN FOR INTEROPERABILITY AND SECURITY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND DATA LINKS AND REPORTING THE FORMATION AND CURRENT EFFORTS OF THE HIGH-LEVEL STEERING COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED TO STUDY THIS PROBLEM. HE DISTRIBUTED TO NATIONAL REPS PRESENT SEVERAL QUESTIONS AND REQUESTED THAT THEY OBTAIN ANSWERS FROM NATIONAL AUTHORITIES TO HELP IN PREPARING THE FUTURE PROGRAM FOR PANEL VIII. WE WILL FORWARD THESE QUESTIONS SEPARATELY FOR COORDINATED US ANSWERS.

2. ITEM III. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN. COL COUGHTRY (CANADA) HAS RESIGNED HIS POSITION AS CHAIRMAN DUE TO HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE CANADIAN ARMED FORCES. CANADA NOMINATED AS HIS REPLACEMENT COL KENNETH H. PERRY, WHO WAS ACCEPTED UNANIMOUSLY. COL PERRY THEN ASSUMED DIRECTION OF THE MEETING. COMMENT. IMPRESSION GAINED DURING MEETING IS THAT COL PERRY IS DETERMINED TO GIVE RENEWED IMPETUS TO WORK OF PANNEL VIII. HE IS A CAPABLE CHAIRMAN AND AN ENERGETIC LEADER. END COMMENT.

3. ITEM VI. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION. THE NETHERLANDS REP INTRODUCED A BRIEFING BY COLLINS RADIO GROUP ON THE ROYAL NETHERLANDS ARMY (RNLA) MOBILE HF-SSB RADIO KL/GRC-4394 (COLLINS DESIGNATION, THE 718U-2B RADIO SYSTEM) DESIGNED TO SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS OF THE RNLA (2 TO 30 MHZ IN 100 HZ INCREMENTS, 40/400 WATTS, WITH OPERATING MODES USB, LSB, AM, CW, DATA/U AND DATA/L). NO OTHER NATIONAL REPS MADE PRESENTATIONS OR OFFERS TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION ON ITEMS WHICH MIGHT BE OF INTEREST. CONFIDENTIAL

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4. ITEM VII. POSSIBLE COOPERATIVE PROJECTS.

A. NETHERLANDS REP STATED DUTCH INTEREST IN A RECONNAISSANCE RADIO DEVICE TO REPLACE THE US AN/GRR-71 BURST TRANSMISSION DEVICE. SUCH A DEVICE IS IN RESEARCH STUDY BY THE UK. NETHERLANDS HAS OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENT FOR A SMALL NUMBER, AND DUTCH REP ASKED IF OTHER NATIONS HAVE SIMILAR NEED.

B. IN LATER DISCUSSION OF FACSIMILE EQUIPMENT, PANEL LEARNED THAT THREE NATIONALS (THE US, UK, AND GERMANY) ARE DEVELOPING TACTICAL FACSIMILE EQUIPMENT. COMMENT. WE BELIEVE THAT PROMPT CONCERTED ACTION BY THESE NATIONS

COULD RESULT IN SOME FORM OF STANDARDIZATION OR AT LEAST INTEROPERABILITY. WE SUGGEST THAT US DEVELOPMENT AGENCY INVESTIGATE POSSIBILITY OF TRILATERAL APPROACH. END COMMENT.

C. NORWAY IS DEVELOPING DIGITAL DATA SET FOR TRANSMITTING FROM ARTILLERY OBSERVATION POSTS TO FIRE DIRECTION CENTERS. PRODUCTION PROTOTYPE IS DUE JAN 76. PRIMARY EMPLOYMENT WILL BE AS NARROW-BAND DIGITAL SET WITH AN/PRC-77 OR HF-SSB RADIO. NORWAY HAS NOT CONSIDERED ITEM FOR COOPERATIVE EFFORT, AND APPARENTLY IT IS TOO LATE NOW FOR COOPERATIVE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

COMMENT. WE BELIEVE THIS DEVICE IS SIMILAR TO ONE IN US TACFIRE SYSTEM DESCRIBED AT RECENT MEETING OF AC/225 (PANEL XIII) ON INTERNATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ADP SYSTEMS FOR COMMAND AND CONTROL (REF B). END COMMENT.

5. ITEM VIII. REPORT ON SUB-PANEL 1 ACTIVITIES.

A. THE PANEL AGREED TO TERMINATE THE WORKING PARTY ON RADIO FREQUENCIES AND TO TRANSFER ITS WORK TO THE ALLIED RADIO FREQUENCY AGENCY (ARFA). ARFA AGREES.

B. CHAIRMAN PREVIOUSLY HAD APPOINTED AN AD HOC WORKING GROUP TO DEFINE A FUTURE PROGRAM OF WORK FOR SUB-PANEL 1. RESULTING REPORT IS AN EXCELLENT CRITICAL REVIEW OF PAST ACTIVITIES AND DIRECTIONS FOR THE FUTURE. IT IDENTIFIES CONFIDENTIAL

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THE WORK WHICH AFFECTS INTEROPERABILITY, THE NEED FOR INTERCHANGE OF INFORMATION AMONG NATIONS, AND THE NEED TO COOPERATE WITH ATCA AND OTHER NATO BODIES. IT RECOMMENDS DELETING WORK NOT AIMED TOWARD INTEROPERABILITY.

C. THE WORKING GROUP ON HANDBOOK OF INTEROPERABILITY HAS ADDED TO TABLES OF INTEROPERABILITY LISTS OF TECHNICAL PARAMETERS USED TO DETERMINE INTEROPERABILITY. IT WILL COMPLETE UPDATING THE HANDBOOK (D/22) IN ONE MORE WORKING SESSION.

D. THE DIRECTORY WORKING GROUP WILL MEET IN OCTOBER 1975. US HAS NOT YET MADE ITS PROPOSAL, BUT INDICATED IT PLANS TO MAKE PRESENTATION AT THE NEXT WORKING GROUP MEETING. INDICATIONS ARE THAT NATO MAY NOT REACH AGREEMENT ON A SINGLE DIRECTORY SYSTEM, BUT MAY PERFORCE ACCEPT THREE: FOR THE FRENCH/BELGIAN RITA SYSTEM, FOR OTHER EUROCOM NATIONS, AND FOR THE US AND CANADA.

6. ITEM IX. LIAISON WITH OTHER BODIES INTERESTED IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS. BECAUSE PANEL VIII HAD NOT REQUESTED UPDATES, EUROCOM DID NOT MAKE STATEMENT ON THE STATUS OF ITS WORK.

7. ITEM XV. FUTURE PROGRAM OF WORK OF THE PANEL AND
ITS SUB-PANEL. CHAIRMAN APPOINTED AN AD HOC WORKING
GROUP TO DRAFT A REPORT ON POSSIBILITIES FOR THE
INTEROPERABILITY OF TACTICAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS
IN THE COMBAT ZONE, POST-1985. THEIR REPORT WILL BE
CIRCULATED FOR NATIONAL REVIEW AND COMMENT.
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